

DT 99-053

Atlantic Connections, Ltd. and LLC

Withdrawal of Certification to Operate
in the State of New Hampshire

Order Granting Request

O R D E R N O. 24,010

July 15, 2002

I. BACKGROUND

On January 24, 2001, the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received notification from ChoiceOne Communications (ChoiceOne) of the dissolution of Atlantic Connections, Ltd. (Atlantic CTP) and Atlantic Connections, LLC (Atlantic CLEC), (collectively Atlantic). Atlantic Connections was acquired by ChoiceOne in 1999. Atlantic CTP is a New Hampshire-certified Competitive Toll Provider holding IXC No. 00797 dated August 19, 1992. Atlantic CLEC is a New Hampshire-certified Competitive Local Exchange Carrier (CLEC) pursuant to Order Nisi No. 23,225 dated June 8, 1999, issued under Docket No. DT 99-053. ChoiceOne has requested that both certifications be withdrawn.

Atlantic avers that over the past two years all customers have been migrated to ChoiceOne from both Atlantic entities leaving neither Atlantic entity with any customers. Furthermore, neither now exists as a legal entity.

II. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

New Hampshire Revised Statutes Annotated 374:28 provides that a public utility may discontinue any part of its service only when the Commission determines that the public good does not require the further continuation of such service. Staff notes that with the migration of Atlantic's customers to ChoiceOne following its acquisition of Atlantic, there is no inconvenience to the public at issue or need for continuation of Atlantic's services. Accordingly, Staff recommends granting Atlantic's request to withdraw certification.

III. COMMISSION ANALYSIS

We find that the public good does not require the continuation of the services provided by Atlantic. Therefore, we grant the request by withdrawing any certification previously granted.

Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby

ORDERED, that the request of Atlantic to withdraw the CLEC certification issued in Order Nisi No. 23,225 is GRANTED; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that the request of Atlantic to withdraw the CTP certification issued under IXC No. 00797 is GRANTED; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that the request of Atlantic to withdraw all tariffs is GRANTED; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that a *nunc pro tunc* waiver of Puc 1304.03(d)(2) is GRANTED.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this fifteenth day of July, 2002.

Thomas B. Getz
Chairman

Susan S. Geiger
Commissioner

Nancy Brockway
Commissioner

Attested by:

Claire D. DiCicco
Assistant Secretary